

LATEST NEWS OF THE WORLD BY TELEGRAPH AND CABLE. { CONTINUED ON PAGES 5, 11

NEWS FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

Lord Roberts Again Capable of Undertaking the General Advance.

BRITISH OCCUPY BRANDFORT.

The Passage of the Vaal Carried at Warrenton Sor by British Without Opposition-The Boers Ineffectually Bombarded Brandfort-British Fail to Identify moving Column of Boers Captured Boers to be Sent to Ceylon Regarded as an Important Key to the Drakensberg Passes.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

London, May 5.-4:05 a. m.-The Mounted Infantry with Lord Roberts, among whom are the Canadians, have picked their horses on the south bank of the Vet river, eighteen miles north of Brandfort. The head of Lord Roberts' column has thus advanced thirty-two miles from Karee Siding in two days, or fifty-three miles north of Bloemfontein.

Little powder was spent. The British work was hard marching, the Boers retiring out of the reach of the British shells. The correspondent supplements Lord Roberts' plain statements with a few details. As General Hutton, with the First Mounted Infantry Brigade, drew near Brandfort, he saw a Khaki clad body of troops ahead of him. He was surprised, but thought they must be British. Soon, however, they opened fire upon the British, who replied heavily. They were the Irish-American brigade from Lourenzo Marques, and it is reported that the Irish lost severely. The Boer flag was flying over Brandfort as the British entered the town. Several British wounded were found in the hospital. The Boer postmaster gave up the keys of the public buildings to Captain Ross.

Lord Kitchener arrived at Brandfort at noon and Lord Roberts at dusk. General French's cavalry are sweeping the country northward. The expectation is that the infantry advance will be continued toward Kroonstad immediately. Although no prisoners were taken and although no hot pursuit was attempted the news greatly cheers London. Nevertheless it has not been received with the line nature that attended the first successes of Lord Roberts.

General Hunter's crossing the Vaal at Winderton brings the relief of Mafeking, 195 miles beyond, almost within a calculable interval. It is now regarded as quite possible that Mafeking may be succored before the queen's birthday. The debate in parliament on the Spion Kop dispatches provided a disappointment to the supporters of the Government. The ministerial papers confess to a certain amount of inconsistency and weakness in the statements of the spokesmen of the Government. On the other hand, as the Standard points out, the opposition profess to be well satisfied with the debate, as they believe it has injured the government and has rendered Lord Lansdowne's continuance at the War Office difficult.

Wepener is to be garrisoned with a strong force from General Chermide's division, commanded by Lord Castle-town.

Henry W. Lucy, writing in the Daily News, says he has ascertained that Sir Alfred Milner's letter against ladies visiting South Africa was written as the result of an intimation from Queen Victoria.

OTHER REPORTS.

London, May 4.-11:10 p. m.-The War Office this evening issued the following from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, Friday, May 4: "The mounted infantry have gone on to the Vet river. The rest of the force will march there to-morrow. The railway has been repaired to this."

SMITHFIELD OCCUPIED.
Allied North, Cape Colony, May 4.-Smithfield was occupied yesterday by General Hart's brigade. Out of the 150 Boers in the town 25 were captured and the rest decamped.

Ladybrand was recently full of Boer wounded, who have now been removed to Pletskburg.

EFFECTUAL BOMBARDMENT.

A British 6-inch wire gun opened unexpectedly on the Boer laager yesterday at a distance of seven and a half miles, throwing hundred-pound shells with wonderful accuracy, and causing a hasty retreat of the burghers. The bombardment continued to-day at all points by howitzers and field guns, supported by two companies of the Munster regiment, the Boers being driven from shelter and their guns being put out of action.

FAILURE TO IDENTIFY.

Brabant's Camp, Tuesday, May 1.- (By runner to Mafeking)-Brabant's division now occupies a strong position on a range of hills on the Ladybrand road about twenty miles from Wepener. The troops are confronted by a large force of Boers, who recently occupied Wepener and who have now been located in the mountain known in the Free State as Zwartla-berg.

This morning the Borderers Horse, under Colonel Maxwell, came in contact with the Boer outposts, but returned to camp after locating the enemy. Later a group of five hundred Boers was discovered marching past the Boer position, but the British were

unable to tell whether they were friend or enemy until they had disappeared in a hollow a few miles away when they proved to be a Boer commando.

BOER PRISONERS EXPECTED.

Colombo, Ceylon, May 4.-It is expected that a batch of Boer prisoners will be sent here. The Imperial government has approached the Ceylon authorities on the subject, and has asked them to suggest a good site for a camp.

BOERS SHIFT GUNS.

Ladysmith, May 4.-The Boers have shifted their guns on the range of hills facing the British in front of Elands-laagte and have posted a long tom on a hill in the direction of Weesels Nek.

INDISCRIMINATE SHELLING.

Thaba N'Chu, May 4.-The Boers have evacuated Thaba N'Chu hill and are believed to be still trekking, though one gun has shelled the camp indiscriminately. Scouts report that some of the Boers retired toward Wepener. They believe the Boers evacuated the position during the night, trekking northwardly in three directions.

BRABANT EXPECTED.

General French left to-day. General Rundle is in command here. It is expected that General Brabant will effect a junction at any moment.

BRANDFORT OCCUPIED.

London, May 4.-News of the occupation of Brandfort was issued by the War Office at 10 o'clock this morning, confirming the Associated Press news. It is generally considered the most important communication received from the front since the capture of General Cronje and the relief of Ladysmith.

AN IMPORTANT KEY.

The position gives the key to one of the main roads leading to the Drakensberg passes, which possibly may be the means of co-operation with General Buller later on, provides an advance base of supplies, etc., and at the same time menaces the Boers now southeast of Bloemfontein.

The Boer army which is at Brandfort, commanded by General DeLarey, is presumably retiring on Winburg, which will possibly be the next immediate objective of the British.

Brandfort, thirty-five miles nearer the Transvaal capital, is now Lord Roberts' headquarters.

ROBERTS' GENERAL ADVANCE.

What particularly gratifies the British public is the evidence that the army of Lord Roberts in the Orange Free State has recovered its ability and is again capable of undertaking the general advance, so long retarded. It hardly expected the Boers will make much of a stand south of Kroonstad, and possibly not there if Lord Roberts succeeds in capturing Winburg, thus intersecting between the main federal army and the Boer forces in the neighborhood of Thaba N'Chu and Houtnek in which case the latter would be forced to move far to the eastward, in which direction their mobility would probably enable them to reach the Bethlehem and Harrismith line of safety. The only opposition which the British encountered at Brandfort seems to have come from the Irish-American command.

The central British army is now in line with the extreme left at Boshof, under Lord Methuen, and the extreme right at Elands-laagte, under General Buller, so that movements of these wings in co-operation with the arm may shortly be expected.

London, May 4.-Lord Roberts report to the War Office May 3, on the occupation of Brandfort follows:

"We occupied Brandfort to-day without much opposition and without, I hope, many casualties. The first brigade of Mounted Infantry covered the left flank of the 14th brigade of the 7th Division, and the right flank was supported by the 15th brigade. Pole-Carew's division advanced directly on Brandfort. The Boer army, which was under command of DeLarey, retired in a northerly direction."

SUFFOLK REGIMENT DISASTER.

London, May 4.-The Gazette this evening contains General French's report of the disaster to the Suffolk Regiment, January 5, which he attributes entirely to the fact that a majority of the four companies of the regiment engaged were seized with panic and retired. He pays high tribute to the officers of the regiment and the men who remained with them.

SENSATIONAL HOMICIDE.

A BAPTIST PREACHER KILLS A STENOGRAPHER.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Charleston, S. C., May 4.-One of the most sensational homicides in the history of Bamberg, this State, occurred there this morning at 10 o'clock, when Rev. E. Johnson, pastor of the Baptist Church, shot and almost instantly killed W. T. Bellinger, stenographer of this judicial district.

Trouble between the two began yesterday over the painting of a line fence between the premises of John R. Bellinger, father of the deceased, and the Baptist parsonage, at which it is said hot words were passed and a pistol was drawn by Bellinger.

This morning as young Bellinger was returning from the postoffice to his father's residence Rev. Johnson, armed with a double-barrelled shot gun, accosted him in front of the Carlisle Fitting School. A few words passed, a few shots were exchanged and young Bellinger lay dying on the ground with a smoking pistol in his right hand.

After the shooting occurred Rev. Johnson walked quietly into his home unhurt, and remained there until about 1 o'clock, when he went down to the jail and surrendered to Sheriff Hunter.

As to how the affair started this morning, and as to who shot first, there is considerable diversity of opinion, but it is generally claimed that Bellinger shot first, and that Rev. Johnson only shot once. Bellinger's pistol had four empty chambers, and he probably shot four times, twice at least after he had fallen mortally wounded. Bellinger was struck in the right side by twelve buckshot and eight small shot, which penetrated his lungs and liver, causing almost instant death.

The families connected with the unfortunate affair are two of the most prominent and influential in the town.

OUR MEN IN THE PHILIPPINES.

General Otis Again Cables Washington About Pacification.

HE SIGHTS END OF THE WAR.

He Reports the Capture of Artillery, Rifles, Ammunition and a Large Quantity of Stores, But Omits Particulars of the Samar Disaster-Filipinos Have lost Nearly Two Thousand men, Killed Wounded and Captured He Says that the Leading Filipinos are now Surrendering.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Washington, D. C., May 4.-The War Department to-day received the following report from General Otis:

"Manila, May 4, 1900.

"April captures from enemy, 50 pieces artillery, 1,200 rifles, considerable ammunition and large stores property. During early portion of the month the enemy was active in extreme northern and southern Luzon and some Visayan Islands. Our reported losses for the

NOTABLE DAY IN SENATE.

Army Organization Bill Amended And Passed Without Division.

SOME OF ITS PROVISIONS.

The Measure Practically Revolutionizes The Present Staff Arrangement of the Army The Corps of Cadets Increased- Provision for a Veterinary Corps-The Grade of Lieutenant-General revived-A Chaplain for Each Cavalry Regiment -The House Makes Progress with the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Washington, May 4.-To-day's session of the Senate was rendered especially notable by the passage, after a debate lasting only three hours, of the army reorganization bill. In military circles the measure is regarded as one of the most important of the present session. It practically revolutionizes the present staff arrangements of the army. It proposes to change the present system of permanent appointments in certain

the commanding general of the army to that of lieutenant general, and that of the adjutant general to major general, the latter being during the incumbency of the present Adjutant General, General Corbin. The President is empowered to place on the retired list any officer who has been suspended from duty by sentence of court-martial, or by executive order in mitigation of such sentence, for a period extending to or within one year of the time of his compulsory retirement for age. This is well understood to apply to Commissary General Hagan.

A VETERINARY CORPS.

An amendment creating a veterinary corps of the army consisting of a Colonel and 35 other commissioned officers was attached to the bill after a spirited debate, the amendment being adopted by a vote of 25 to 21.

The fortifications appropriation bill carrying about \$7,500,000 was passed.

POSTOFFICE BILL.

Mr. Wolcott reported the postoffice appropriation bill and gave notice he would call it up on the 16th instant. Mr. Teller gave notice he would call up his resolution expressing sympathy for the Boers after routine business to-morrow. The army reorganization bill was then called up.

Mr. Tillman (South Carolina) moved that the fifteenth section of the measure be amended so as to read as follows:

LEUTENANT GENERAL.

"That the senior Major-General commanding the army shall have the rank, pay and allowances of a Lieutenant-General, and his personal staff shall have the rank, pay and allowances authorized for the staff of Lieutenant-General."

The amendment proposed by Mr. Tillman had the effect of striking out the provision making the section apply only to General Miles, the vice at Commander of the army. It was agreed to. Mr. Berry (Arkansas) moved to strike out the section as amended.

Mr. Bates (Tennessee) also objected to the increase of rank, this tendency to increase the strength of the army.

Mr. Sewell pointed out that the Confederacy had 19 Lieutenant-Generals and eight full Generals, and said that any European army of our present strength would have two Lieutenant-Generals and one full General.

MOTION DEFEATED.

The motion was defeated 8 to 44 as follows:

Yeas-Bate, Berry, Butler, Clay, Culbertson, Kearney, Money, Vest-8.
Nays-Allison, Bacon, Baker, Barks, Barrows, Chandler, Cockrell, Davis, Deboe, Elkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Foster, Frye, Gallinger, Gear, Hale, Hendon, Harris, Hawley, Hoar, Jones (Nevada), Keen, Kyle, Lindsay, Lodge, McComas, Mason, Nelson, Perkins, Pettigrew, Pettus, Platt (Connecticut), Proctor, Quarles, Rawlins, Ross, Sewall, Shuford, Simon, Stewart, Teller, Wellington, Wolcott-44.

Mr. Keamey, of Delaware, offered an amendment creating a veterinary corps and strongly advocated its adoption.

Mr. Proctor presented a letter from the Secretary of War which argued strongly against the amendment. The amendment was agreed to-25 to 23.

CHAPLAINS PROVIDED.

Mr. Sewell offered an amendment, which was agreed to, providing for one chaplain for each cavalry regiment, with the rank, pay and allowances of a captain mounted; and for each infantry regiment with the rank, pay and allowances of a captain of infantry. Provided, that the office of post chaplain, United States Army, is abolished, and the office now holding commissions as chaplains shall be assigned to regiments. It also requires chaplains to be at least 35 years old and to establish fitness.

The bill as amended was reported to the Senate, the amendments were agreed to and the bill was passed without division.

FORTIFICATIONS.

Mr. Perkins then called up the fortifications appropriation bill, and it was read for amendment. As reported, it carries \$7,733,023, an increase of \$400,140 over the amount passed by the House.

The committee amendments were agreed to. An amendment offered by Egan, authorizing proportional payments for insurance dynamite gun carriages and ammunition, was agreed to. The bill as amended was passed.

A bill was passed appropriating \$30,000 for the purchase of a site and erection thereon of a public building at Durham, N. C.

At 5:15 p. m. the Senate adjourned till Monday.

THE HOUSE.

Washington, May 4.-The House made fair progress to-day with the sundry civil appropriation bill, completing 73 of the 132 pages of the bill. Much of the time to-day was consumed in an effort of the members of the Naval committee to cripple the coast and geodetic survey in retaliation for the refusal of the House to agree to their recommendation, when the naval bill was before the House, to place the survey of the waters of our insular possessions in the hands of the navy. They tried to strike out the item in the bill authorizing the coast survey to survey the coasts in the jurisdiction of the United States but were defeated. They made a point of order held against a new vessel for the survey and against an appropriation of \$182,745 for enlisted men on survey vessels but the latter appropriation went back in the bill in another form.

An amendment was adopted to increase the pay of the surfmen at life saving stations to the uniform rate of \$65 a month.

Mr. Dayton, of West Virginia, moved to strike from the item for coast and geodetic survey the provision for the survey of the coasts "under the jurisdiction of the United States."

This re-opened the controversy on this subject.

After prolonged debate the appropriations committee were again victorious.

Mr. Dayton's amendment being defeated without division.

The members of the Naval committee continued their fight. While they were out-voted upon every occasion when the question was submitted to the House

OUR RICHMOND CORRESPONDENCE

A Lady Murdered and Her Remains Cremated in Halifax.

PARTICULARS OF THE AFFAIR.

Robbery is Supposed to Have Been the Motive of the Author of the Crimes

-State Chairman Ellyson Working for the Constitutional Convention-Republicans are Manifesting Little Interest in the Question-The Case of School Superintendent Green-Approaching Nuptials Rev. Mr. Riddick's Case.

(Special to Virginian-Pilot.)

Richmond, Va., May 4.-Information was received here to-day of a most shocking occurrence near Vernon Hill, Halifax county. Mrs. Lucinde Harris, an aged lady of that place, was murdered and her remains almost completely consumed by fire. Mrs. Harris, who was a pensioner, her husband having belonged to the Northern army, was very peculiar, and lived all alone in a small house. Her income was more than sufficient to supply her needs and she saved a considerable amount of money.

It was said that she had at least \$1,000 in gold, silver and greenbacks, which she kept hid in her room. This is supposed to have been the motive for the murder. A quantity of melted gold was found near the body. No trace has yet been found of the murderers, although an active search has been made.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

State Chairman J. Taylor Ellyson is preparing to send out letters notifying the Democrats that the Constitutional Convention has been made a party issue. Mr. Ellyson will work hard to get out a good vote on the day of election, and is confident that the convention will be ordered.

The advocates of convention in this city claim that Richmond will go for it by a large majority. The Republicans here are taking little interest in the question and very few of them will vote.

SUPERINTENDENT GUNN'S CASE.

The case of Superintendent Gunn, of the Radford Public Schools, against whom charges were preferred some time ago, and who left Radford, came up this morning before the State Board of Education. Some evidence was taken the nature of which was not disclosed, after which the matter was postponed to some future date, for the purpose, it is said, of obtaining other testimony. It is hinted that there will be some sensational disclosures.

APPROACHING MARRIAGE.

The approaching marriage is announced of Miss Mary Luck and Mr. R. C. Cell Garlick. Miss Luck is a granddaughter of Mr. R. A. Lancaster and the ceremony, which takes place Wednesday next, will be an event in Richmond society.

REV. M. RIDDICK'S CASE.

Mr. W. S. Poage, one of the counsel for Rev. J. E. R. Riddick, who shot and killed Dr. Temple in Brunswick county, arrived here from Lawrenceville this morning. He is the guest of his brother-in-law, Mr. J. R. Riddick.

There is still a strong feeling against Rev. Mr. Riddick among the people residing in the neighborhood, where Dr. Temple formerly resided.

A LEGACY.

Mrs. Annie Perdue, of No. 1821 Everett street, this city, has recently been informed of the death of a relative of her father's who left an estate valued at \$100,000, to be divided equally between her and her brother and sister.

Presidential Nominations.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Washington, D. C., May 4.-The President to-day sent the following nominations to the Senate:

Sanford B. Dole, of Hawaii, to be governor of Hawaii; Henry E. Corsey, of Hawaii, to be secretary of Hawaii.

E. C. Bellows, of Washington, to be consul-general at Yokohama, Japan; Lieutenant-Commander Samuel C. Lemly, U. S. N., of North Carolina, to be judge advocate-general of the navy, with rank of captain, for the term of four years from the 4th of June, 1900.

Mr. Dole was the President of the late Hawaiian Republic.

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GENERAL BOTHA, WHO IS CONDUCTING THE FIGHT AGAINST LORD ROBERTS IN PERSON.

The main Boer army is now in the Orange Free State, disputing the northward advance of General Lord Roberts' force of soldiers. The Boer operations near Bloemfontein, which have been remarkably successful thus far when the disparity in the numbers of the contending armies is considered, are being conducted in person by Commandant General Louis Botha, who succeeded the late General Joubert as the senior officer of the united Transvaal and Orange Free State armies. Botha was in command of the Boer forces that repulsed Buller at Vaal Krantz and Spion Kop.

month 13 enlisted men killed, 3 officers, 24 enlisted men wounded; rumored recent loss in Samar of 19 killed and number wounded not yet reported. This is due to small detachments scouting in mountains in the interior of the island. The enemy losses officially reported were 1,721 killed, wounded and captured. Leading Filipinos express confidence in the early pacification of the islands. They say the war has terminated. Leading insurgents are surrendering. OTIS."

A Weeks' Bank Clearings.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

New York, May 4.-Total bank clearings at the principal cities of the United States for the week ending May 3 were \$1,845,882,647, a decrease of 14.5 per cent.

Outside of New York City, \$637,103,711, a decrease of 3.6 per cent.

CORPS OF CADETS.

The bill provides for an increase of 100 in the corps of cadets at West Point, two at large service. As vacancies occur in departments of the Adjutant General, the Inspector General, Quartermaster General and Commissary General they are to be filled by details from the line, the details to be temporary, and not exceeding four years.